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Jane A. Walker

April 9, 2003
Date

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Tseung et al.
Serial No.: 09/483,248
Filed: January 14, 2000
Examiner: Gitomer
Group Art Unit: 1651
Confirmation No.: 8145
Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATIC TISSUE STAINING**
Atty Docket: LABV/03

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

April 9, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

ELECTION

In response to the Office Action mailed on March 11, 2003 in the above referenced application, applicants elect claims 29-38 (Group I) and cancel claims 39 and 40 (Group II) without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the restriction between Groups I and III because claim 41 (Group III) is also directed to a method of staining a slide; a new slide added to an in-process staining protocol.

Applicants believe that no fees are necessary with this submission. Should the Examiner deem otherwise, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

By Beverly A. Lyman
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